

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SAB-01 EB-11 INT-08 FEAE-00

STR-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-02 ACDA-19 AID-20 DRC-01

/204 W

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R 191430Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7633

INFO RUESABPXAMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 4221

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 5074

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, XF, IS

SUBJECT: KENYA, OIL AND ISRAEL

SUMMARY. IN RECENT DAYS KENYAN PRESS AND PUBLIC FIGURES HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY CRITICAL OF ARAB INTRANSIGENCE ON OIL PRICE REDUCTION WITH SOME MP'S AND JOURNALISTS QUESTIONING WISDOM CONTINUED BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. KENYAN CABINET REPORTEDLY REVIEWING GOK'S STANCE IN LIGHT GROWING PUBLIC OUTCRY. END SUMMARY

1. IN RECENT DAYS NAIROBI PRESS HAS ACCORDED LEAD COVERAGE TO OAU SUMMIT DEVELOPMENTS EMPHASIZING UNWILLINGNESS ARAB OIL EXPORTING STATES TO ROLL BACK PRICES. JUNE 18 EAST AFRICAN
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STANDARD BANNERED QTE AFRICA NEEDS YOUR AID UNQTE IN REFERENCE

FON MIN MUNGAI'S AIRPORT STATEMENT UPON RETURN FROM MOGADISCIO
IN WHICH HE CALLED FOR ARAB ASSISTANCE TO AFRICAN STATES.

2. SUNDAY NATION, HIGH CIRCULATION TABLOID FEATURED ANALYSIS
OIL PRICE ISSUE BY RESPECTED COMMENTATOR HILARY NG'WENO. FOLLOW-
ING BALANCED PRESENTATION OF ARAB ARGUMENTS AGAINST CONCESSIONARY
PRICES, NG'WENO CONDEMNED ARABS FOR CAUSING GREATEST DAMAGE TO
MOST FRAGILE ECONOMIES. ALSO URGED AFRICAN STATES TO RESTORE
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, ASKING WHY AFRICANS MUST
BE ONLY FRIENDS OF ARABS WHO MUST HAVE TOTAL DIPLOMATIC SEVERANCE
WITH ISRAEL IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH ARAB NATIONS.
UNQTE

3. ARAB OIL PRODUCING STATES ATTACKED BY TWO ASSISTANT MINISTERS
AND OTHER MP'S ON JUNE 18. MARTIN SHIKUKU, ASSISTANT MINISTER
FOR HOME AFFAIRS, CALLED ON AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO RECONSIDER
THEIR MIDDLE EAST STANCE IN LIGHT OF ARAB INTRANSIGENCE
AND IM-
PROVED U.S.-ARAB RELATIONS. SHIKUKU CONTRASTED ISRAELI ASSIST-
ANCE PROGRAMS IN KENYA PRIOR OCTOBER WAR WITH CRIPPLING EFFECT
OF PRESENT ARAB OIL POLICY. BURUDI NABWERA, ASSISTANT
MINISTER
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO WAS REPORTEDLY PRIME MOVER IN KENYA'S
BREAK WITH ISRAEL, REPROACHED NIGERIA AS WELL AS ARAB OIL
EXPORTERS.

4. YET ANOTHER MP NOTED THAT ARABS, FORMER SLAVE TRADERS WHO
RAVAGED AFRICAN POPULATIONS, NOW REFUSED TO HELP AFRICAN COUNTRIES
IN TIME OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. HE STATED THAT FRIENDS ARE
JUDGED BY THEIR ACTIONS DURING TIMES OF DIFFICULTIES. NOW ARABS
PREFER TO HOBNOB WITH AMERICANS AND EUROPEANS WHO ARE THEMSELVES
SQUEEZING US FOR EVERY CENT WE CAN MAKE FROM THE SOIL. UNQTE.

CHARACTERIZED AS A QTE INSULT UNQTE \$200 MILLION PLEDGED FOR AFRICAN
DEVELOPMENT BANK.

. COMMENT: EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS FROM MOFA PERM SEC. MATHEKA
THAT KENYAN CABINET CURRENTLY REVIEWING GOK'S STANCE ON OIL/
ARABS/ISRAEL IN LIGHT OF GROWING PUBLIC OUTCRY. WHILE OUTCOME NOT
YET KNOWN, WOULD POINT OUT THAT PRESIDENT KENYATTA, AT URGING
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HIS ADVISERS, PERSONALLY TOOK DECISION TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH
ISRAEL
WITHIN ONE WEEK OF PUBLICLY SAYING KENYA WOULD NOT TAKE
SIDES IN MID-EAST QUARRELS. DESPITE KENYA'S USUAL CAUTION IN
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DECISION TO RENEW RELATIONS COULD COME IN
EQUALLY SUDDEN AND DRAMATIC FASHION IF RESENTMENT AGAINST ARABS
CONTINUE TO GROW. IN THIS EVENT, PRESUME KENYA WOULD PREFER TO
ACT IN CONCERT WITH ONE OR TWO OTHER OAU MEMBERS.

MARSHALL

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